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**United States Patent** [19][11] **Patent Number:** **5,336,513****Riemer**[45] **Date of Patent:** **Aug. 9, 1994**[54] **BITTERNESS INHIBITORS**[56] **References Cited**[75] **Inventor:** **Jed A. Riemer, Scarsdale, N.Y.****U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**[73] **Assignee:** **Kraft General Foods, Inc.,  
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**Related U.S. Application Data**

[60] Division of Ser. No. 27,568, Mar. 5, 1993, which is a continuation of Ser. No. 840,651, Feb. 20, 1992, abandoned, which is a continuation of Ser. No. 658,146, Feb. 20, 1991, abandoned.

[57] **ABSTRACT**

Bitterness inhibitors are disclosed which are derivations of cinnamic acid. A process for reducing the bitterness of consumable materials is set forth which comprises the addition of the bitterness inhibitors at a level of from about 0.001% to 0.2% by weight. The preferred bitterness inhibitors are caffeic acid and ferulic acid.

[51] **Int. Cl.<sup>5</sup>** ..... **A23L 1/236**[52] **U.S. Cl.** ..... **426/548; 426/538;  
426/595; 426/656**[58] **Field of Search** ..... **426/548****4 Claims, No Drawings**